(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU); (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In view of constraint of resources and large throwforward of on-going projects, it is not feasible to consider construction of the proposed new line.

Petition against Banerjee Committee Report

588. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that following the findings of the U.C. Banerjee Committee that the Godhra train fire was caused by accident, certain intellectuals and journalists have petitioned Government to free the persons incarcerated on the suspicion of causing the fire and paying compensation to such persons; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Home Affairs has referred the petition to the Government of Gujarat for comments.

Railways' safety measures

589. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has prepared a comprehensive plan with a policy thrust on safety measures;

(b) whether Railways have decided to install new devices for interlocking system at 1550 stations nationwide;

(c) if so, whether new system could affect better operational efficiency, flexibility and greater safety by providing quick route setting on the pressing of entry and exit key on a central control panel;